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and renters. The negroes much preferred the independence of the latter system, but with their sense of responsibility still undeveloped this method made for the poorest sort of cultivation and the actual abuse of agricultural opportunities. During the last decade there has been a distinct drift toward a share-tenant system with less onerous exactions on the part of the owner, to the better satisfaction of both laborers and owners and to the improvement and more certain stability of the industry; in effect this frequently means a return to the plantation system. The general tendency is true of all parts of the state, whether white or black predominate. The author had exceptional opportunities for his study in connection with his work as special investigator for the Thirteenth Census, and he has added a good deal of interesting material to one important phase of the industrial history of the South.

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*Copartnership in Industry.* By C. R. FAY. Cambridge, England: The University Press, 1913. 16mo, pp. 146. \$0.40.

In this book the author gives a short history of copartnership in industry and describes its various types, delineating at length several such schemes as have been introduced, within the past few decades, by Godin and Leclaire in France and by Lever Brothers and the South Metropolitan Gas Company in England.

While emphasizing the importance of copartnership as a means of ending the eternal strife between labor and capital, the author realizes the inexpediency of state intervention in this part of the economic field and the impracticability of the adoption of any one universal method to bring about the desired effects.

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*Insurance and the State.* By W. F. GEPHART. New York: Macmillan, 1913. 8vo, pp. xiii+228. \$1.25.

The case for state monopolization of the various branches of the insurance field is very attractive, at first sight. The co-operative principle upon which all insurance is based and the wide distribution of risk required to give effect to the law of probability point to insurance as a social function and a very proper sphere for the exercise of state ownership. Professor Gephart discusses the wisdom of state interference in life, fire, and industrial insurance, regarding such interference first as a source of revenue to the state and secondly as a means of extending the benefits of insurance and of lowering its cost. He concludes that state insurance would be a failure as a financial measure. Since the present private companies are efficiently managed as a rule, the state could not reduce the expenses of insurance to any appreciable extent. Large agency expenses are necessary in the case of life insurance companies to spread the advantages of insurance. The abuses of private ownership can be largely eliminated by proper state regulation and the repeal of unwise laws, such as the valued-policy laws in the case of fire insurance companies, which now hinder

development. In short, only in the field of industrial accident insurance, old-age insurance, and other forms of social insurance is there a plausible justification for state interference, in the opinion of Professor Gephart. The practical difficulties of application in the different states of the Union outweigh the theoretical advantages even here.

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*The Primitive Family as an Educational Agency.* By ARTHUR JAMES TODD. New York: Putnam, 1913. 8vo, pp. ix+251. \$1.75 net.

In this admirable book Dr. Todd has shown the origins of primitive education and the function of the primitive family in developing it. Present-day education, he thinks, has much of its foundation upon these primitive teachings. Primitive education prepared the young for the life which they were to lead in the group; it was largely economic and eliminated most of the aesthetic features. The family relations themselves originated from an economic need, that of caring for offspring. The author answers the query as to whether education was a family or group affair by stating that the family was one, but not the only, source of primitive knowledge, as the group or tribal education was also very important.

The value of the book from an economic standpoint is that it shows clearly the great importance of economic conditions in shaping human institutions and impresses the fact that such is still the process, as our present-day conditions will be productive of different future institutions.

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*The Modern Trust Company.* By F. B. KIRKBRIDE and J. E. STERRETT. 4th ed. New York: Macmillan, 1913. Royal 8vo, pp. xiii+319. \$2.50.

The third edition of this book was published in 1907. The new edition recognizes the steady growth there has been in trust companies since that time, and the development of their importance as financial institutions. Besides bringing the volume as a whole up to date, the authors have rearranged and amplified the bibliography.

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*Lincoln, Labor and Slavery.* By HERMAN SCHLÜTER. New York: Socialist Literature Co., 1913. 12mo, pp. 237.

Declaring that "there is indeed no impartial history," the author frankly acclaims his class-conscious bias in this discussion of the development of the labor movement in its relation to abolition and the Civil War. A belief that the same economic evils were at the root of both the chattel slavery of the negro and the wage slavery of the working-man early turned the sympathies of the members of the working class to the abolition movement. The value of this support from the laboring classes in the North, in the South, and abroad, particularly in England, was, in the author's view, incalculable; it was the